

Natural Helper Program

Summit Middle School is Making it Happen!



OUR PROMISING PRACTICE is based on a simple premise—within every school, an informal “helping network” already exists. The Natural Helper Program trains this existing helping network with skills they need to achieve the following goals: 1) to prevent some of the problems of adolescence, 2) intervene effectively, 3) choose positive ways to self-care, and 4) to improve the school and community.

OUR STEPS start with an annual student survey to identify both peers and adults at SMS who are already “natural helpers”; these are the people others trust and turn to when seeking support or experiencing a problem. Those identified are given the opportunity for training in a two day retreat-like setting and on-going training to enhance their natural helping skills. Students meet with counselors regularly to review how they have been helping peers, taking care of themselves and to discuss new ways to help their peers, themselves, the school and the community on an ongoing basis.

WE ARE a suburban middle school in Southwest Allen County schools. We are a 1:1 school implementing PBIS and utilizing a modified block schedule.

OUR STUDENTS & FAMILIES are who we serve. We have approximately 700 students who comprise our diverse student population.

OUR TEACHERS are 44 in total. We have two full academic teams per grade level, four SpEd teachers, two counselors, and a part-time school psychologist.

Support the Natural Helpers Program at Southwest Allen County Schools.



For more information about our school or corporation, visit <http://www.sacs.k12.in.us/Page/8914> or email Julia Miller at jmmiller@sacs.k12.in.us.